3:Watson E-4,5 (1943) 1952 SM4 Guarani SM4

*177 412 241 and the axe—the first in particular—to Cayuá agriculture can scarcely be overestimated. It is possible to clear larger pieces of forest at present than formerly, expending both less effort and less time to do so. It is no longer necessary to depend so heavily upon burning and reburning, nor to gather and pile up brush about the trunks of large trees to remove them by fire. With the use of the hoe and machete it is possible to keep crops freer of weeds; a clean *kokwé* is now largely a matter of the industriousness of its owner. Formerly it was much more difficult or technologically impossible to weed frequently.

*177 412 Machetes are the most important metal implement of all, for agriculture and for many other applications. Practically every adult male owns at least one machete, though it is usually a poor one, much diminished by resharpening or breaking of the point. Old machetes are relegated to household use when they become too small for field work (and this must be very small because some men are obliged to continue to use knives worn or broken down to no more than a foot in length). In the household they are used to pull roasted tubers from the fire, in the preparation of food, and the like. The old machetes are also used by the women for short digging implements in getting food from the *kokwé*.

[426] [313] Not everyone owns a hoe or an axe, but axes seem to be the second most essential (and the most expensive) metal implement. Borrowing is usually possible, or the machete is simply made to do instead. Axes are primarily used in fetching and splitting firewood—although a machete will serve up to a point—and in felling the larger trees in the forest for clearing a *kokwé*. Felling the largest trees is very heavy and difficult work and usually impossible with [241] a machete. The hoe is entirely restricted to agriculture, whereas axes and [342] machetes both may be used in housebuilding and honey gathering, and mache- [222] tes are also employed in certain kinds of hunting—usually with dogs—and other activities. The hoe is used in weeding and in opening holes for planting [241] certain crops. Women have more to do with hoes than with either of the other [224] white-introduced tools, which are generally considered implements of male use.

[563] In agriculture, practically the only aboriginal implement remaining today is the digging and planting stick, or *sarakwé*. Corn, especially, is always planted *178 412 with the *sarakwé*, and the implement actually has much to recommend it in the log and stump-strewn *kokwé*. The *sarakwé* is primarily, if not exclusively, an implement of female use. Bamboo knives, aboriginal implements, though [241] possibly not used in agriculture, have fallen into general discard except in [844] their ritual use in severing the natal cord of the newborn infant—an example of conservatism of technology associated with ritual practices.

*177 342 412 Before leaving the subject of metal tools introduced by way of acculturation, mention should be made of the use of the machete in modern house-building. Most obvious is the present wide-spread use of a type of "board" made from large trunks of *taquara* bamboo, split open and flattened in a man-